

...upon the seas to which it eventually flows.

by / par Stuart Jones

which forms part of / qui forme une part de: Fuller's Flow

"The highest good is like water.
It flows in places men reject and so is like the Tao."

"Le plus haut bien est comme l'eau.
Ça coule dans les endroits rejectés par les hommes et ainsi donc est comme le Tao."

Tao Te Ching
Paragraph 8

The water sounds used in this piece were recorded in Europe, North Africa, India and North America. For the text, I selected a number of passages from Buckminster Fuller's writings and asked friends, colleagues and students to choose passages, translate them into their native languages and read them for recording. Damien Borowik also read the original English of his text, as I wanted it in French and English in the same voice. My thanks to all these people who gave their voices to this piece. My thanks as ever and always to Tim Cole, who makes it possible.

Les sons de l'eau utilisés dans cette pièce ont été enregistrés en Europe, Nord Afrique, Inde et Nord Amérique. Pour les textes, j'ai choisi quelques passages des écrits de Buckminster Fuller et demandé à des amis, collègues et élèves de choisir un passage, le traduire en leur langue maternelle et le lire pour l'enregistrement. Damien Borowik a aussi lu son texte en Anglais, parce que je le voulais en Français et Anglais avec la même voix. Je remercie tous ceux qui ont donné leurs voix à cette pièce. Je remercie, comme toujours, Tim Cole, qui le fait possible.

The piece is dedicated, with love, to Damien Borowik.
La pièce est dédiée, par amitié, à Damien Borowik.

We all have certain tactical events that happen in our lives. A certain thing happened in my life that was tactically important enough to force me to make utterly vital decisions about my life. I was married during World War I and I was in the Navy. We had a little child born and she caught the flu, then spinal meningitis and then infantile paralysis. We seemed to be able to overcome these attacks more or less. That is, she seemingly was cured though she had many traces of paralysis left. Just before she was four years old she caught pneumonia and died.

During those years with a new life whom we loved so dearly, we were continually frustrated with physical inadequacies, such as the kind of apartment we could have. The physical environment conditions seemed terrible. The fact that the housing that we were in was very poor made me feel many times that the conditions which we were operating under were in many ways responsible for our child's sickness.

I learned a great deal about corporations, and I organized five small factories around the country. Those years came immediately after Alexandra died. During these years I worked terribly hard, but the minute I was through work for the day - I guess I was in a whole lot of pain about our child having died - I would go off and drink all night long and then I'd go to work again. I had enough health somehow to carry on.

I was very unguarded in my personal life and suddenly I found that I had lost the company. When a person happens to play tough games he may be surprised to find himself not only in an embarrassing position, but also in a difficult position. I was in a difficult position and just at that moment a new child was born - five years after our first one died. Under those conditions I was utterly broke, in Chicago, and I had lost much vitally important confidence in those whom I had thought to be my friends - and I was in a mess.

But I had had a terrific amount of experience. I came to a point where I found myself saying, 'Am I an utter failure? If so, I had better get myself out of the way, so at least my wife and baby can be taken over by my family and they will do the best they can with them. Am I going to be a drag on them, or is there possibly any reason I can see why I ought to go on?'

I was forced by these circumstances to start doing some thinking on my own. It was at that point that I decided that there must be a certain first thought that I would have to go into. What is the first question I could possibly ask myself if I was going to do some thinking?

Standing by the lake on a jump-or-think basis, the very first spontaneous question coming to mind was, 'If you put aside everything you've ever been asked to believe and have recourse only to your own experiences, do you have any conviction arising from those experiences which either discards or must assume an a priori greater intellect than the intellect of man?' The answer was swift and positive. Experience had clearly demonstrated an a priori anticipatory and only intellectually apprehendable orderliness of interactive principles operating in the universe into which we are born. These principles are discovered by man but are never invented by man. I said to myself, 'I have faith in the integrity of the anticipatory intellectual wisdom which we may call "God".' My next question was, 'Do I know best or does God know best whether I may be of any value to the integrity of universe?' The answer was, 'You don't know and no man knows, but the faith you have just established out of experience imposes recognition of the a priori wisdom of the fact of your being.'

Apparently addressing myself, I said, 'You do not have the right to eliminate yourself, you do not belong to you. You belong to the universe. The significance of you will forever remain obscure to you, but you may assume that you are fulfilling your significance if you apply yourself to converting all your experience to highest advantage of others. You and all men are here for the sake of other men.'

Nous avons tous des événements tactiques qui se produisent dans nos vies. Quelque chose de spécial m'est arrivé, dont la tactique était tellement importante qu'elle m'a forcée à faire des décisions radicales concernant ma vie. J'étais mariés durant la première guerre mondiale. et j'étais dans la marine. Nous avons eu la naissance d'un petit enfant, et elle attrapa la grippe, et une méningite dorsale puis une paralysie infantile par la suite. Nous avons plus ou moins accepté ces attaques. Mais elle attrapa une pneumonie juste avant ces quatre ans et mourut.

Durant ces années avec une nouvelle vie que nous chérissions tellement, nous étions constamment frustré par des inadequacies physiques, tel le type d'appartement que nous pouvions avoir. Les conditions physiques environnementales semblaient atroces. Le fait que la maison dans laquelle nous vivions était très pauvre me fit sentir plus d'une fois que les conditions dont nous dépendions étaient étroitement liés à la maladie de notre enfant.

Je m'investis beaucoup dans une compagnie, et j'organisai cinq petite usines à travers le pays. Ça c'est déroulé juste après la mort d'Alexandra. Durant ces années je travaillais terriblement dur, mais dès que j'avais fini le travail pour la journée - je devine que je souffrais terriblement de la mort de notre enfant - je sortais et buvais toute la nuit, puis j'allais travailler. J'avais assez de vigueur pour continuer.

J'étais inattentif à ma vie intime et j'appris brutalement que j'avais perdu la compagnie. Lorsque quelqu'un se prends à jouer un jeu coriace, il peut être surpris de se retrouver non seulement dans une position embarrassante, mais également difficile. J'étais dans une position difficile et juste à ce moment un nouvel enfant était né - cinq ans après la mort de notre premier. Dans ces conditions, j'étais complètement fauché, à Chicago, et j'avais perdu beaucoup de confiance vitale en ceux que je croyais être mes amis - et j'étais dans le pétrin.

Mais j'ai eu une abondance terrifiante d'expériences. J'en étais au point de me trouver dire: "Suis-je un raté complet? Si c'est le cas, je ferais mieux de m'écarter, comme ça au moins ma famille pourra aider ma femme et mon enfant, et ils feront de leur mieux avec eux. Est ce que je vais devenir un poids pour eux, ou n'y aurait-il aucune raison qui me montre pourquoi il me faudrait continuer?"

J'en étais forcé à commencer de me pencher sur moi-même. C'est à ce moment que je décidai qu'il devait y avoir un certain premier raisonnement vers lequel il fallait m'orienter. Quelle était la première question qu'il fallait que je me pose afin de raisonner?

Restant debout au bord du lac dans l'idée de sauter ou de penser, la première question spontanée me venant à l'esprit fut, "Si tu mettais de côté tout ce tu as été demandé de croire et n'avait recours qu'à tes propres expériences, n'as-tu aucune conviction émergeant de ces expériences qui écarte ou affirme un apriori plus grand intellect que l'intellect de l'homme?" La réponse fut prompte et positive. L'expérience a clairement démontré un ordre apriori anticipatoire et appréhendable seulement intellectuellement, ordre de principes interactifs se déroulant dans l'univers dans lequel nous sommes nés. Ces principes sont découverts par l'homme mais ne sont pas inventés par l'homme. Je me suis dit, "Je crois en une intégrité de savoir intellectuellement anticipatoire que nous pouvions appeler 'Dieu'." Ma question suivante était, "Est ce que je sais ou est ce que Dieu sait mieux si je suis d'une valeur à l'intégrité de l'univers?" La réponse fut, "Tu ne sais pas et aucun homme ne sait, mais la foi que tu viens d'établir provenant de tes expériences impose la reconnaissance de l'apriori sagesse du fait de ton être."

M'adressant apparemment à moi-même, je dis, "Tu n'as pas le droit de t'éliminer, tu ne t'appartiens pas. Tu appartiens à l'univers. La signification de ton être te restera obscure pour toujours, mais tu peux assumer que tu complètes ton existence si tu t'appliques à convertir toute ton expérience à l'avantage des autres. Toi et tous les hommes existent pour la prospérité des autres."

This can be resolved to a picture of mankind standing on a little sandy strand beside the course of a turbulent river at the bottom of a great canyon. The waters are rising and also certain to rise constantly, eventually to eliminate the tiny strand upon which man had historically existed. It is therefore not a question of whether man chooses to draw pictures in the sand or to dream of building sand houses - it is a question of how he is to stay afloat, if at all, on the roaring stream which will soon seize him in its coursing and how he may possibly attain not only dynamic equilibrium but even - and not unthinkable - a satisfactory life afloat on that course, or upon the seas to which it eventually flows.

Nye a hounyan konisika, a hounyan ne wa huoden.

Swedish: translated and read by / traduit et lu par Petter Wallenberg

We found that it was possible to get along without a piped in water supply by using atomised water under air pressure. In this manner we can do a very successful personal cleaning job with a pint of water brought to our residence.

Vi från det möjligt
att klara oss utan
vattentillförsel i rör
genom att använda
atomiserat vatten under
lufttryck. På det här
sättet kan vi göra
ett bra personligt städjobb
med cirka 600 milliliter
vatten fört till vår
bostad.

Chinese: translated and read by / traduit et lu par Ming-jen Wang

Historians and parents teach children as though it had always been obvious that yesterday would lead to today. But we, the living, are always in tomorrow's yesterday, and in our tomorrow's yesterday percolate remotely all the vital undertakings of individual initiative destined to series of failures out of which will emerge the vital data on critical limits and variables, the which trickling, then running to many confluences, must flow ultimately to merge with the ocean of obvious environment into which the new life, continuously taking all that has gone before for granted, is born. It is a corollary that the tendency of man to invest only in seemingly 'sure' things constitutes economic suicide. Sure is the prohibited direction of the return to yesterday.

历史家和父母教导子女好似昨天导致今天,但我们活著的人总是活在明天的昨天之内,而在我们明天的昨天必需积极考虑个人的重要事业,注定会经过一些挫折,从中吸取一些重要资料,就如海洋由溪水,小河,大川会聚而成,又好像新生命的开始,人倾向投资只在表面上,肯定勾成经济崩溃,最后肯定不可回归作天禁止的方向。

Spanish: translated and read by / traduit et lu par Sonia Ortiz Alcón

Individuality goes far deeper than these surface manifestations with which people have sought to deceive one another as to the relative importance of their status in the bitter struggle to validate one's right to live. Those who were powerful but ugly and lazy paid for fine clothes and fine surface architecture, and a superstition has persisted that people who could afford to pay must be superior individuals. The powerful have whipped the weak for centuries on end to instil that superstition.

Individualmente vá más allá de esas manifestaciones superficiales mediante las cuales las personas han buscado engañarse unas a otras sobre la relativa importancia de su estatus en la amarga lucha para reafirmar el derecho de cada uno a vivir. Aquellos que eran poderosos pero feos, perezosamente pagaban buenas ropas y buena arquitectura superficial, habiendo persistido la superstición de que la gente que podía pagarlo debían ser individuos superiores. Los poderosos han fustigado a los débiles durante siglos con la finalidad de instaurar esa superstición.

Man?

A self-balancing, 28 jointed, adapter-based biped; an electro-chemical reduction-plant, integral with segregated stowages of special energy extracts in storage batteries, for subsequent actuation of thousands of hydraulic and pneumatic pumps, with motors attached; 62,000 miles of capillaries; millions of warning signal, railroad and conveyor systems; crushers and cranes (of which the arms are magnificent 23-jointed affairs with self-surfacing and lubricating systems, and a universally distributed telephone system needing no service for 70 years if well managed); the whole, extraordinarily complex mechanism guided with exquisite precision from a turret in which are located telescopic and microscopic self-registering and recording range finders, a spectroscope, et cetera, the turret control being closely allied with an air conditioning intake-and-exhaust, and a main fuel intake.

Within the few cubic inches housing the turret mechanisms, there are recording diaphragms, a filing and instant reference system, and an expertly devised analytical laboratory large enough not only to contain minute records of every last and continual event of up to 70 years' experience, or more, but to extend, by computation and abstract fabrication, this experience with relative accuracy into all corners of the observed universe. There is, also, a forecasting and tactical plotting department for the reduction of future possibilities and probabilities to generally successful specific choice. Finally, the whole structure is not only directly and simply mobile on land and in water; but, indirectly and by exquisite precision of complexity, mobile in air; and, even in the intangible, mathematically sensed electrical "world," by means of the extension of the primary integral mechanism to secondary mechanical compositions of its own devising, operable either by a direct mechanical hook-up with the device, or by indirect control through wired or wire-less electrical impulses.

Der Mensch?

Ein 28 gelenkiger, selbstbalancierender, auf Anpassungsfähigkeit basierender Zweifüsser: Eine elektrochemische Verkleinerungsmaschine, vollständig mit extra Stauraum für spezielle Energieextrakte in Speicherbatterien zum anschliessenden Antrieb von tausenden hydraulischen und pneumatischen Pumpen mit gekoppeltem Motor: 62,000 Meilen Kapillare, Millionen von Warnsignalen, Schienen und Transport-systemen, Pressen und Kränen. (Die Arme, eine herausragende, 23-gliedrige Angelegenheit mit selbstregelnder Oberfläche und Schmiersystem und einem gleichmässig verteiltem Telefonsystem, daß bei guter Behandlung servicefrei für 70 Jahre ist); dieser ganze, ungewöhnlich komplexe Mechanismus wird mit einzigartiger Präzision von einem Türmchen aus gesteuert, in dem sich eine teleskopische und mikroskopische Selbstüberwachung, ein Radiusrekorder, sowie ein Spektroskop, et cetera befindet. Dieser Kontrollturm arbeitet eng mit dem luftverarbeitenden Ein-und-Ausgang und dem Hauptbrennstoffeingang zusammen.

In diesen Kubikinch des Türmchenmechanismus befinden sich Trommelfelle zur Geräuschaufnahme, ein Ordnungs- und Sofortnachschrage system, ein fachmännisch, analytisches Vermächtnis, gross genug, nicht nur um minutiöse Aufzeichnungen jedes einzelnen und zusammenhängenden Momentes aus bis zu siebenzig oder mehr Jahren zu speichern und darüber hinaus durch Computernutzung und abstrakte Produkte diese Erfahrungen in alle Ecke des bekannten Universums zu verbreiten. Es gibt außerdem eine voraussehende und taktische Planungsabteilung für die Auswahl von zukünftigen Möglichkeiten und Wahrscheinlichkeiten zu, im allgemeinen erfolgreich bestimmten Entscheidungen. Zu guter Letzt ist die ganze Struktur nicht nur direkt und simpel mobil zu Lande und zu Wasser, aber auch indirekt und mit unfassbarer, edler Genauigkeit in der Luft und sogar in der Unföhlbarkeit der mathematisch erfassten, elektrischen Welt.

Durch Vergrößerung des primär integralen Mechanismus zu zusätzlichen mechanischen Kompositionen kontrolliert entweder durch direkte, mechanische Verbindung, oder durch indirekte Kontrolle durch verkabelte oder kabellose elektrische Impulse.

Farsi: translated by / traduit par Sima and Maziar Raein; read by / lu par Maziar Raein

Inexhaustible faith of man in the validity of himself as an effective factor in the biological equation of the universe, to which latter the principle of essential priority of the commonweal is implicit, i.e.- that the individual is a product and servant of a plurality (but that his best service to the commonweal can be indicated only by admonition of the individual intellect, which can best integrate all factors of the creative equation). In the principle of mass production industry, the significance of the individual as a machine of production continually diminishes and his importance as a consumer increases proportionally. The intellectual productive ability of science and technology which displaces the individual as a productive slave is cumulative to the whole history of intellect. Through the new operating requirements of the transcendental industry, society must arrange a debtless system of increasing the availability of industrial services to all individuals and concurrently to an increasing number of their infinite needs in order to satisfy the science-industry-man equation. If not satisfied by creative ends, the forces now involved will be articulated to man's ultimate destruction because he lacked faith in his own validity - his validity as a never- ending, dynamic process of inclusion and refinement.

سرنوشت خستگی ناپیرایان در رابطه با معیار شخصی به عنوان یک عامل مؤثر جهت سعادت عالم حیات است که معیار اصلی و اساسی در حالت برتقدیم زمانه همگان است به عنوان به نوبه فرد حاصل دستاوردهای جمعی بیاید، دلی به نوبت خدمت به زمانه به نوبت انجمنی و فووش نوبی است که با ادغام تمام عوامل سواره در موارد تولید انبوه در صنعت که مشخصه حرکت به طور جداگانه به صورت ماشین تولید مدرم اربین مورد اهمیت ارباد معرفت کسده در قدرت تولید فوشهیدام علم و فووشی که هر فردی را به صورت بده در آورده در تمام تاریخ معرفت جا به جا می نماید مشغولات لازمه هر علمی در شعور نوبت تولید اجزاء یک سیستم مطمئن در ارباد تولید صنعتی با توازن فووش در فووش قرار دادن ان زمان محدود بودن با توجه به تعداد دفعات تولید بده تا بتوانه رضایت علم و صنعت و توازن فووشی فراهم آورده این قدرت ها در نهایت باعث منوم شدن فرد میشود

The sunlight has never been called 'Wealth' except by the poets or by laughing youths, who are wild poets. The lawyers have never been able to tie a monopoly string to the sunlight or to tie it back to some system of less refulgent sovereign deeds.

Korean: translated by / traduit par Sung Hoon Kang and Seung-Ah Chung;
read by / lu par Seung-Ah Chung

햇빛은 시인들과 황제란 꿈은 사냥꾼은 재워라곤
가치있게 여겨지지 않았다.
변론사들은 햇빛을 독점할수 있었건 그것을 가리키지
않을수도 있었다.

There is in every creature a fountain of life which, if not choked back by stones or other dead rubbish, will create a fresh atmosphere, and bring to life fresh beauty.

Italian: translated and read by / traduit et lu par Silvia Scali

In ogni creatura c'è una fontana di vita che, se non è ostruita da pietre o altra morta sporcizia, è capace di creare una atmosfera fresca, e porta in vita fresca bellezza.

You can now have your cake and eat it. The more you eat, the more and the better the quality of the cakes to be had by further production.

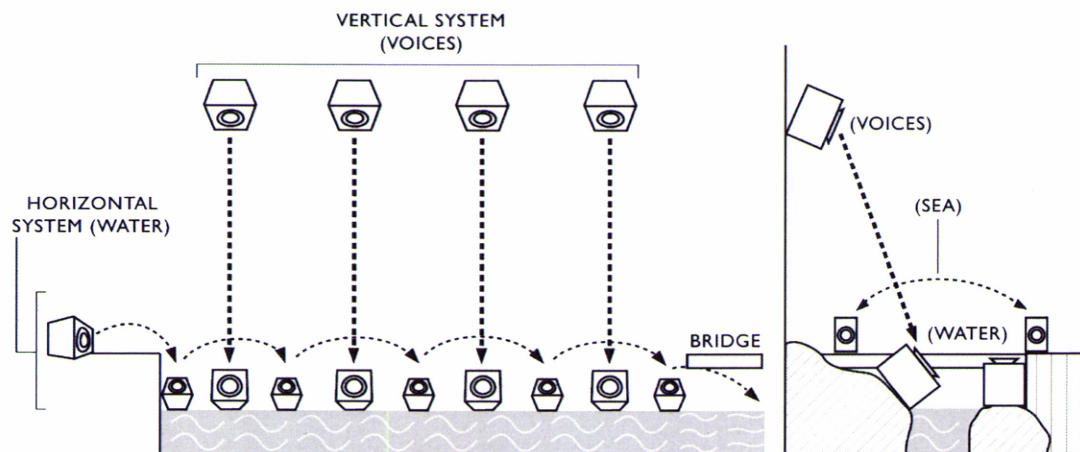
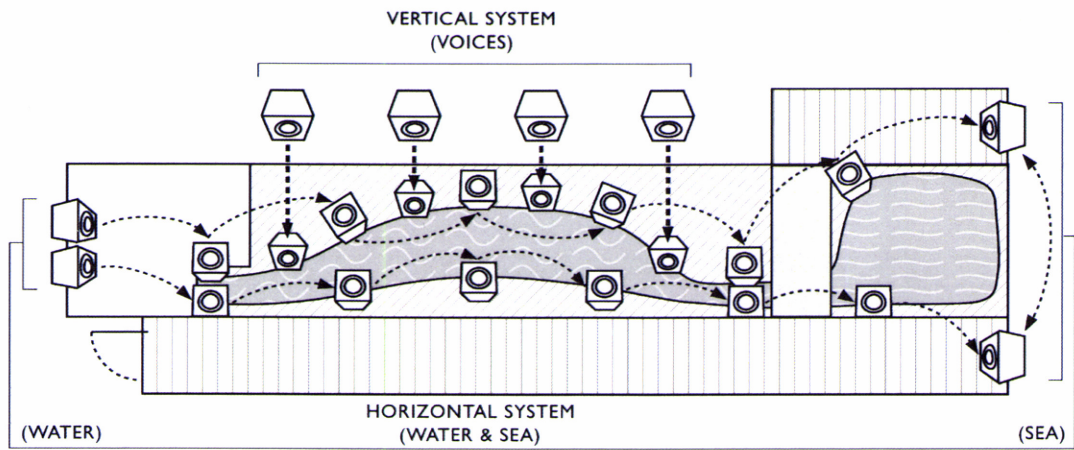
Brazilian Portuguese: translated and read by / traduit et lu par Christiano Abrahao

Você pode agora obter seu bolo e comê-lo. Quanto mais você come, maior quantidade e qualidade dos bolos serão futuramente obtidos.

Whenever I draw a circle, I immediately want to step out of it.

Hebrew: translated and read by / traduit et lu par Irit Batsry
written by / écrit par Sahar Batsry

הוא רוצה לצאת מן המעגל
הוא רוצה לצאת מן המעגל
הוא רוצה לצאת מן המעגל



LEGEND:

